a device connector adapted to be connected to a perfusion device, said device connector having a connector configuration different than said connector configuration of said common connector; and

means for generating [a message] messages, in the form of a digital data packet, for said main controller and said perfusion device.

18. (Amended) An adapter pod for use in a medical perfusion system, said medical perfusion system having a main controller and a data communications network with a plurality of connection points, each connection point having a substantially identical network connector, said adapter pod comprising:

a housing;

a common connector associated with said housing, said common connector adapted to be connected to one of said identical network connectors and having a connector configuration;

a device connector associated with said housing, said device connector being adapted to be connected to a perfusion device and having a connector configuration different than said connector configuration of said common connector; and

a controller disposed within said housing, said controller being adapted to generate messages, in the form of digital data packets, for communication with said main controller and said perfusion device.